(b) if so, whether such permission has been granted; and

(c) if so, what are the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISRY OF EXERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI K. NATWAR SINGH): (a) A proposal exists for the re-establishment of Consulates General by India and China in each other's countries. The mater has been under discussion betwen the two Governments.

(b) and (c) Do not arise.

Entry Tax Imposed by Nepal on Indian Vehicles

2318. SHRI YASHWANT SINHA: Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that an entry tax has been imposed on Indian vehicles entering Nepal while there is no such tax on th entry of Nepalese vehicles in India;

(b) whether it is also a fact that apart from the national entry tax, every Nagar Panchayat in Nepal charges separate entry tax on Indian vehicles and that there is no such entry tax on Nepalese vehicles in Indian cities;

(c) whether the Nagar Panchayat entry tax in Nepal is discriminatory and the amount of tax charged from Indian vehicles is many times more than what is charged from Nepalese vehicles; and

(d) if the answer to parts (a) to (c) above in the affrmative whether Government propose to take up this matter with the Government of Nepal?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI K NATWAR SINGH): (a) Nepalese customs duty is levied on Indian motor vehicles entering Nepal for visits over seven days. Duty is leviable on buses and mini buses after five days of entry into Nepal. Goods vehicles attract duty after 48 hours of entry into Nepal. Nepalese vehicles can enter India with entry permits issued by the Indian Embassy in Kathmandu against bank guarantees of their re-import into Nepal.

(b) Yes, Sir.

(c) Government have no information to indicate this.

(d) The need for reciprocity in the tax regime for vehicles of one country entering the other has been impressed on the Government of Nepal.

Views of Sri Lankan Prime Minister on Indo-Sri Lankan Accord

2319. SHRI YASHWANT SINHA: Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the UNP Presidential candidate in Sri Lanka and presently the Prime Minister of that country, has said that if he is elected President, he would like to replace the Indo-Sri Lanka accord with a treaty of peace and friendship; and

(b) if so, what is Government's reaction thereto?

THE MINISTER OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI P. V. NARASIMHA RAO): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) Government have noted this statement.

Withholding of M. Phil. (Hindi) results by the Delhi University

2320. SHRI KAILASH PATI MISHRA: Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) what compensation is sought to be given to the candidates affected by withholding of result of M. Phil (Hindi Examination held in April, 1987, South Campus, Delhi candidates for the loss of two academic years for no fault of theirs; and

(b) what measures are being taken to prevent recurrance of such delays?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENTS OF EDUCATION AND CULTURE IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRI L. P. SHAHI): (a) The result of the M. Phil (Hindi) examination held in April, 1987 was declared in June, 1988. However, the result of two candidates was held up as a committee appointed by the Vice-Chancellor was examining the validity of their admission. The result of the said candidates has since been declared and intimated to them. The question of payment of compensation to the affected candidates does not arise.

(b) Does not arise.

Foreign proposals for Development of Waterways

2321. SHRI KAMAL MORARKA: Will the Minister of SURFACE TRANSPORT be pleased to state:

(a) whether any foreign proposals are under consideration for development of waterways for navigtional purposes; and

(b) if so, what are the salient features of the proposals and by when a decision is likely to be taken by Government?

THE MINISTER OF STTATE OF THE MINISTRY OF SURFACE TRANSPORT (SHRI RAJESH PILOT): (a) and (b) The Inland Waterways Authority of India, with the Dutch assistance is currently implementing a Pilot project of evaluation of navigability of Allahabad-Patna stretch of Ganga. Further, the Government of Netherlnds have agreed to get a detailed project report prepared under the Dutch Assistance programme for setting up of a modern Inland Port at Patna as an expansion of the on-going Pilot project and for establishment of a National Institute for inland navigation. An Indo-Dutch joint Expert Group is also working out a perspective plan for development of inland waterways. A few other countries have also expressed interest for cooperation in the development of IWT on Indian river systems.

Unused stores material of India Airlines

2322. SHRI KAMAL MORARKA: Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION AND TOURISM be pleased to state:

a) whether it is a fact that stores material worth several crores has been lying unused with Indian Airlines for many years;

(b) if so, what are the details in this regard; and

(c) what steps are proposed to be taken to correct the situation?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF CIVIL AVIATION AND TOURISM (SHRI SHIVRAJ PATIL): (a) and (b) No, Sir. In Indian Airlines as on 31st March, 1988, the value of spares, which has not moved for more than two years vis-a-vis the gross block of the aircraft|stores holdings, is about 3.6 per cent.

(c) In the context of airline operations where an operator is solely dependent upon the foreign manufacturers for aircraft spares, certain amount of material lying unused for many year is inevitable. Therefore the question of taking any corrective steps does not arise. However, Indian airlines has taken the following measures to ensure that the non-moving items are kept to the barest minimum:—

(i) Review of list of non-moving items periodically;

(ii) disposal of identified surpluses dept constraints of limited buyers and resale value; and

(iii) fixing of the maximum|minimum and ordering levels in respect of each individual item of spares and review of such levels in the light of experience gained, etc.